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TAFT PROMOTES ARMY OFFICERS

Wotherspoon Named to Succeed Grant—Three Other Appointments.

Washington, June 24.—Four important appointments in the army were decided upon to-day by President Taft, who will send the nominations to the Senate next Thursday for confirmation. The most important promotion which will be recommended by the President is that of Brigadier-General William W. Wotherspoon, commanding the Department of the Gulf, with headquarters at Atlanta, Ga., to be a major-general to fill the vacancy in the higher grade caused by the death of Major-General Frederick D. Grant, formerly commanding the Atlantic Division, with headquarters at New York.

Three officers are recommended to be appointed brigadier-generals to fill vacancies caused by the recent death of Brigadier-General Joseph W. Duncan, formerly in command of the Department of Texas, the retirement of Brigadier-General Daniel H. Brown, formerly in command of the Department of California, and the promotion of Brigadier-General Wotherspoon. The brigadiers named by the President are General Clarence R. Edwards, formerly of the infantry; Colonel George F. Chase, of the cavalry; and Colonel Edward J. McClelland, also of the cavalry.

General Wotherspoon was born in a District of Columbia, in November, 1859, and received his early education in the local schools. His first military experience was in the United States Navy, in which he held the rank as master's mate from March, 1879, to October, 1879. In the latter month he was appointed second lieutenant of the Twelfth United States Infantry. He served in that regiment until February, 1901, when he was made major of the Thirtieth Infantry. He became lieutenant-colonel of the Fourteenth Infantry in July, 1904, and two years later was transferred to the Nineteenth Infantry.

While holding that rank in October, 1907, he was promoted over the heads of 145 senior officers to the rank of brigadier-general. His advancement was in recognition of his efficient services in the Philippines.

Since returning from the islands in 1902, he has presided over the infantry and cavalry school at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and the Army War College in this city. He has served two details on the general staff corps in this city. A few months ago he was relieved from duty at the Army War College and assigned to the command of the department of the Gulf. General Funston, Bliss, Mills and Pershing were senior to General Wotherspoon in the list of brigadier-generals in the order named. General Wotherspoon will retire for age in November, 1914.

General Edwards is chief of the Insular Bureau of the War Department, the incumbent of which office has the rank and pay of a brigadier. His present appointment makes him a brigadier-general in the regular line of the army. He is from Ohio and was graduated from the Military Academy in June, 1883. During the Spanish War and the Philippine insurrection he served as major and assistant adjutant-general of volunteers, and then as lieutenant-colonel of the Forty-seventh United States Volunteer Infantry. He saw considerable active service in the Philippines under General Lawton. While holding the rank of captain in the Tenth United States Infantry in June, 1906, he was made chief of the Bureau of Insular Affairs, with the rank of brigadier-general, under authority of a special act of Congress. He is now in Europe in the interest of the Panama Exposition at San Francisco.

Colonel Chase is from Illinois and was graduated from the Military Academy in June, 1871. Most of his service was in the cavalry arm. He reached the grade of colonel in October, 1906, and was assigned to the command of the Fifteenth Cavalry, after holding that command about eight months he was detailed to duty in the inspector-general's department, and is now serving at the headquarters of the Atlantic Division, Governor's Island, N. Y.

Colonel McClelland is a medal of honor man, having received that decoration for distinguished gallantry in action against hostile Nez Perce Indians at Bear Paw Mountains, in Montana, in September, 1877. He is from Illinois and was graduated from the Naval Academy in June, 1879. He served in the cavalry arm except during the Philippine insurrection, when he was colonel in command of the Forty-fourth Volunteer Infantry, and for a short detail to the volunteer adjutant-general's department. He became colonel of the Ninth Cavalry in November, 1908, and was transferred to the First Cavalry a few days later. He is now in command of that regiment at the Presidio, San Francisco. Several years ago he was stationed in this city as a member of the general staff corps.

Colonel Chase will retire for age in July next, and Colonel McClelland will reach the retiring age in the following December, thus allowing President Taft opportunity to appoint two more brigadiers.

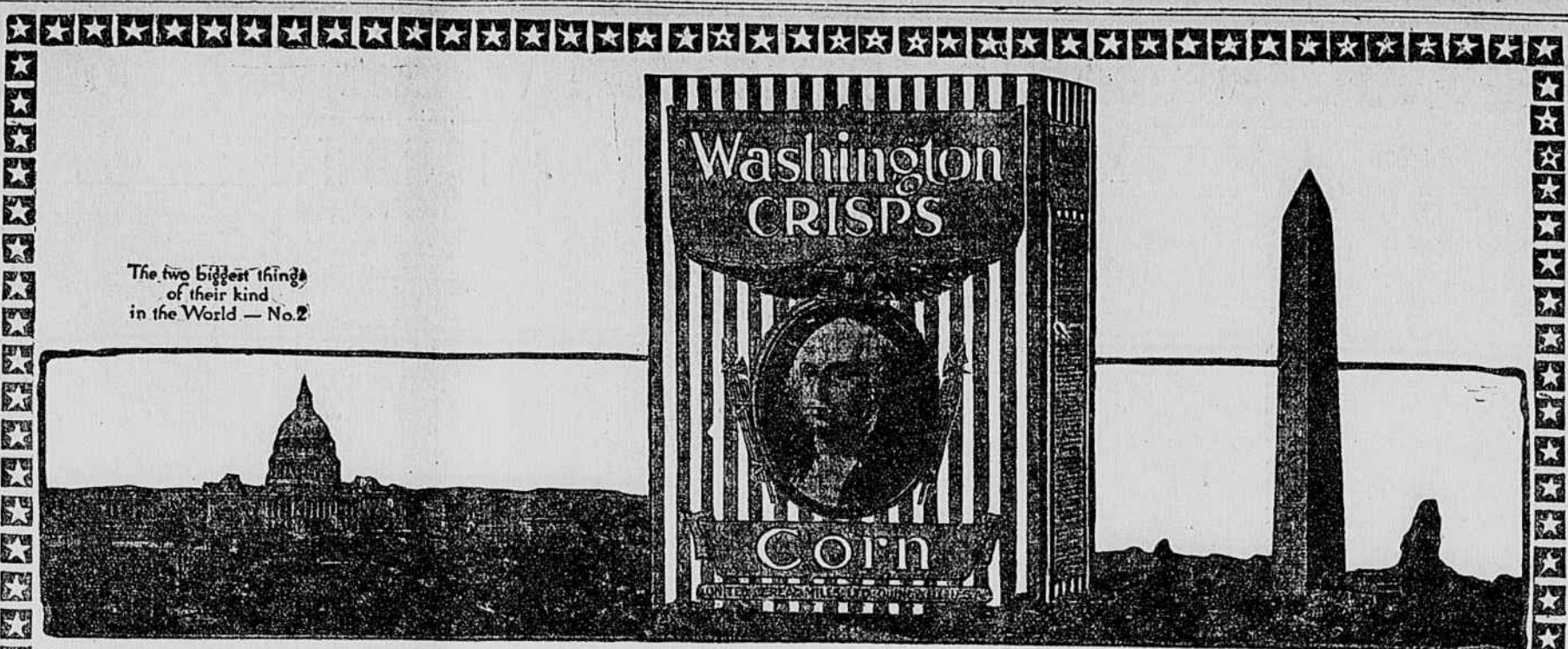
**NO INTERFERENCE
WITH BIG FIGHT**
But Governor Insists That Laws Against Public Gambling Be Enforced.

St. Louis, June 24.—There will be no interference with the big fight between the world's champion at Las Vegas July 1 by Governor McDonald, who has issued a proclamation forbidding the State law enforcement officers to suppress the fight.

This was made plain in an official statement issued by Governor McDonald, who said that the State law enforcement officers should not be directed to suppress the fight and life attendant upon the fighting.

In view of the absence of specific legal prohibition Governor McDonald adds that he can do so to enforce strictly existing laws regarding gambling.

Negro Ministers in Conference.
New York, June 24.—The conference of negro ministers of the African M. E. Church, which has been in session here, ended today. The sessions have dealt mainly with the necessity of providing greater educational facilities for the negro population of the South. The conference also set on foot a movement for raising money to erect a girls' college at Salisbury, N. C.



THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT, Washington, D. C., is the biggest thing of its kind in the world, being 555 feet high—so high that when one looks out of the windows at the apex, upon people walking in the streets below, they look like black ants. A passenger elevator conveys visitors to the top of the monument or one may walk up the broad stairs if they so prefer, and have the requisite physical endurance. The monument is the mecca of millions of Americans when visiting the National Capitol. The big package of Washington Crisps is, likewise, the biggest thing of its kind in the world:

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PREACHER FELL IN TRANSE IN PULPIT

Pastor of Brookline Church Says He Received Message From Professor James.

Cambridge, Mass., June 24.—Following the reports of the extraordinary spirit messages from Professor James, asserted to have been sent through mediums to Professor James H. Wiggin, of the Society of Psychical Research, Frederick A. Wiggin, pastor of the fashionable Unity Church, of Brookline, announced yesterday that he, too, has been in occasional communication with the spirit of the psychologist ever since October, 1910, about a month after Dr. James died. Mr. Wiggin is a prominent medium. He was for a time a literary assistant of Mrs. Mary Baker Eddy. He has before announced spirit communications from John McClelland, the tragedian, and Dr. Richard Hodgson, former secretary of the Society of Psychical Research, and Professor James. When he first said he had heard from the latter many other mediums were making similar claims. Professor Wiggin then criticized these messages, saying he did not believe them genuine, but thought a form of hysteria had produced them in the brains of the mediums. Subsequently he published accounts of seances in which he believed the spirit of Professor James made trustworthy manifestations.

Mr. Wiggin says he has hesitated to make public his communications thus far with the spirit of Professor James because of their incompleteness, but he now gives out the first installments of a thesis dictated by the spirit, hoping that the interest aroused may stimulate the professor to complete the work.

"I know no more about what happened during the periods in which the spirit of the famous philosopher has made use of my physical body as a means of transcription of his thesis than you do," said Mr. Wiggin yesterday. "I will try to describe to you the circumstances of the reception of the messages."

"The first two installments of what will be a complete spirit work I received at Unity Church, Professor James died in August, 1910. On the evening of the first Sunday in the following October I was conducting the usual service at my church, when without the slightest warning, I felt myself entering the trance state. At first I grew meditative, then semi-conscious, finally losing all knowledge of things about me. I remained in this condition for possibly ten minutes. In the first instance I gave

verbal utterance to the thought of the controlling spirit.

"All of the other communications which came later were written by the spirit of William James, using my hand to convey the thought as yours would be employed to direct your own pen. These messages are not in my handwriting, but that of William James."

The first message from Professor James, received on October 2, 1910, is quoted as follows:

"All good seed contains a germinating principle universally emanating from the Deific centre. There is a germinating or creative principle in all matter, which the mere fact of creation proves. Matter does not and cannot create matter. An impulse is absolutely necessary. That impulse we declare is spirit. Whether spirit is the original impulse or not we will yet make clear."

"There is an aspect of matter which clearly implies a designer, since certain forms and attributes give positive quality of design. Heat, the universal other life, etc., attributes of the creative principles of nature, are somewhat familiar to all, but with these and other forces of nature, especially what we will designate as magnetic forces, science will soon more fully familiarize itself."

"Certain powers of nature are promulgated as well as expressed in ex-pression, not in the form of matter through which it may be observed, but by spiritual power, which is prior and superior to matter."

"We have in their order, life, consciousness, mind. Man is expressed in the culmination of matter in design. Mind in man is the assertion of his supremacy over all matter, and from the first revolutions of time life has been the conqueror of death."

**EVERY HOUR ADDS
TO TOLL OF DEAD**

Seventeen Bodies Already Recovered and Eleven Persons Not Yet Accounted For.

Buffalo, N. Y., June 24.—Every hour today added to the toll of dead in last night's accident at Eagle Park, Grand Island, when fifty feet of an excursion dock collapsed and dropped to persons into the Niagara River. The semi-darkness, the ten-mile current of the river at that point, the confusion and swiftness of it all agreed to cover up for a time the full extent of the catastrophe. In the night, seventeen bodies had been recovered and identified, and there was a list of eleven more who were known to have been at the park and had not yet been accounted for.

EVELYN AFRAID OF HARRY THAW

Testifies She Fears He Will Kill Her as He Has Threatened to Do.

White Plains, N. Y., June 24.—Evelyn Nesbit Thaw still fears that if her husband gets out the Matinean he will attempt her life, she testified to-day at the hearing of Harry K. Thaw's application for release from the asylum on the contention that he is now sane.

"I am afraid that if Thaw is released he will kill me, as he has threatened to do," she volunteered during cross-examination by counsel for Thaw.

"Mrs. Thaw seemed excited when she made this declaration, but Thaw put a finger up to his face, and with a smile turned to his mother and whispered something which made her smile. Mrs. Thaw said that she was an unwilling witness. 'I have always wanted to have my marriage annulled and get out of this business,' she said.

She is still being paid \$400 a month by Thaw.

Dr. Charles G. Wagner, head of the State Hospital for the Insane at Binghamton, testified that Thaw had told him in the 'Twenties, shortly after the shooting of Stanford White, that he had not meant to kill White, but that 'Providence had intervened and had taken the matter in hand.'

Operation on Dr. Patten.
Hamilton, Bermuda, June 24.—Dr. Francis L. Patten, former president of Princeton University, was operated on for appendicitis on Saturday at his home here. His condition is fairly satisfactory.

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TURNER'S THEORY OF UNIVERSE NEW

Astronomers at National Observatory Engrossed by Views of Englishman.

Washington, June 24.—A new and amazing theory of the universe is put forward by Professor H. H. Turner, of the Royal Astronomical Society of England. He holds that the whole community of stars, numbering, he estimates, at about 1,000,000,000, is suspended in space in the shape of a somewhat flattened globe, with the Milky Way for its equatorial belt.

Astronomers at the National Observatory here are engrossed by Professor Turner's view, which, they say, explains in a new way Professor Kapteyn's theory that the universe is composed of two vast parallel streams of stars moving in opposite directions.

"If," says Professor Turner, "the earth's distance from the sun be represented by one inch, the nearest fixed star would be about five miles away. The whole community of stars would then be about the present size of our earth and would contain about a thousand million stars in all, scattered at distances some miles apart, more widely near the surface."

"The general shape is not spherical. Our earth is flattened at the poles, and the star community is probably more flattened. But a more serious difference is that whereas our earth has for equator only an imaginary line, the star community has a very real and magnificent belt of extra stars, which we call the Milky Way."

"Turning from dimensions and shape to internal history, we shall find a more convenient contrast in the solar system. We are accustomed to the absolute tyranny of the sun, to whose control we all submit, keeping at assigned distances from him and receiving benefits in the shape of light and heat. But the star community is a pure democracy, where control is vested in the community at large, though its effective seat is in their centre."

"No particular light or heat emanates from the seat of government, which is, however, occupied for a brief spell by every star in turn. The outermost are urged toward the centre by a unanimous vote, but as they respond to the behest they gradually become indifferent to the contrary calls of the outer stars and are affected only by those nearer the centre than themselves. The centre is, however, only reached to be abandoned, and the journey continues to the other side of the cluster, when the return commences. But the majority of the stars do not make this extreme journey. They are

content with smaller excursions from side to side. Our sun is one of these, and probably never strays further than a quarter of the far limits. Our whole oscillation, if we may trust precarious estimates, is about 400,000,000 years, and we passed near the centre—which lies in the constellation Taurus, at a distance of about ninety light years from us—something under a million years ago. In this more crowded region did we meet with vicissitudes of interest to geologists?"

According to Professor Turner's idea, the stars, with their satellites and planetary systems, travel back and forth from one side to the other of the star community, not in ordinary elliptical orbits, but in very much flattened ellipses, and their pendulum-like swing is due to the preponderating attraction of the star masses at the centre of the star community.

His notion that no particular light or heat emanates from the "seat of government"—that is, the central part of the star community—raises a query which no astronomer here is competent to answer.

What then is there at the centre of the universe? May it be the throne of a supreme Intelligence that rules creation? There is at least no evidence to the contrary.

The chance that any two of the billion stars will smash into each other in their oscillations is very small, Professor Turner thinks. As to the actual dimensions of the star community, the mileage is too stupendous for the common mind to comprehend. The diameter of the community would approximate 55,000,000 miles (the distance from the earth to the sun) x 63,260 (the number of inches in a mile) x 8,000 (the diameter of the earth) = 4,152,000,000,000, or over forty-eight quintillion miles.

"The distances in the universe are so vast that no telescope has ever actually revealed the disc of a fixed star. All that is shown in the most powerful reflector is a mere point of light without any definite outline. Each fixed star is regarded by astronomers as a sun, the centre of its own planetary system."

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